

Chief District Judge Ricardo S. Martinez

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

JANE DOE, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY, *et al.*,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:21-cv-1274-RSM

JOINT STIPULATION AND
EXTENDING DEADLINE

Noted for consideration on:
November 29, 2021

Plaintiffs brings this litigation pursuant to the Mandamus Act seeking, *inter alia*, to compel the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) and the Department of State (“DOS”) to complete consular processing and issue travel documents for Plaintiff Beneficiaries of Plaintiff Jane Doe, who have approved I-730 petitions. Dkt. No. 1. Defendants’ response to the Complaint is currently due on or before December 3, 2021. The Parties respectfully request a 90-day extension of the deadline to allow for possible resolution of the litigation without further litigation.

The cases are currently at the National Visa Center awaiting the scheduling of consular interviews at the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. This process has been delayed due to COVID-19-related operational restrictions and resulting backlogs of cases

1 since DOS suspended routine visa services worldwide on March 20, 2020.
 2 <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news/suspension-of-routine-visa->
 3 [services.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news/suspension-of-routine-visa-services.html). Plaintiff reports that Plaintiff Beneficiaries have recently been contacted about
 4 scheduling their interviews.

5 To allow Defendants time to schedule the interviews abroad, the Parties, through their
 6 counsel, jointly request that the Court extend the deadline for Defendants to respond to the
 7 Complaint until March 3, 2022. The parties agree that this is an acceptable timeframe and
 8 recognize the possibility that this process may moot Plaintiffs' claims in their entirety.

9 DATED this 29th day of November 2021.

10 Respectfully submitted,

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ORDER

The Parties having so stipulated and agreed, the Court hereby ORDERS that Defendants' deadline to respond to the Complaint is extended to March 3, 2022.

DATED this 30th day of November, 2021.



RICARDO S. MARTINEZ
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE